

TOWN OF ARLINGTON

Joseph Connelly
Director of Recreation



PARK COMMISSIONERS
Leslie Mayer, Chairperson
Jen Rothenberg, Vice Chair
Shirley Canniff
Donald Vitters
Jim Robillard
Elena Bartholomew, Associate
Peter Hedlund, Associate

Recreation Department

Park and Recreation Commission
Minutes
Tuesday, December 9, 2014
Arlington Senior Center
Approved

The Park and Recreation Commission came to order at 7:00 PM for its meeting in the Arlington Senior Center on Tuesday, December 9, 2014

Members in attendance included: Leslie Mayer, Jen Rothenberg, Don Vitters, Associate Members Elena Bartholomew and Peter Hedlund. Director of Recreation, Joseph Connelly was also present.

Members from the public: Members of Boy Scout Troop 306 were present in order to earn their communication badge by attending a civic meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of November 13, 2014 were tabled and the minutes of November 25, 2014 were approved on a motion by Ms. Rothenberg, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 3-0.

Open Forum – Public Comments

Members of Troop 306 discussed that they were at the meeting to earn their communication badge. The Commission discussed what their role was in Town and what Mr. Connelly's role was. Each scout talked about their favorite park in town.

Waldo Plaque Discussion

The Commission discussed options for the John MacEachern memorial plaque and asked Mr. Connelly to see if mounting it on the memorial bench was possible. It was suggested that the plaque would be black with raised gold lettering. Mr. Connelly will see if this is possible and run the idea past the family.

Field Permit Policy Review and Update

Mr. Connelly reviewed the recommended changes to the policy, highlighting that all field fees should be paid prior to the season and not after or during the season. Ms. Rothenberg motioned to approve the recommended changes, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 3-0.

Special Requests

There were no special requests proposed at this time.

2015 Park Commission Meeting Dates

The Commission discussed options for meeting dates for the 2015 calendar year. Ms. Rothenberg motioned to approve the following dates, seconded by Mr. Vitters and approved 3-0. The July and August meetings may be altered prior to the season based on Commission availability.

422 Summer Street, Arlington, Massachusetts 02474
Telephone (781) 316-3880 Fax (781) 641-5495

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*Arlington Parks and Recreation Commission
2015 Meeting Schedule
Arlington Senior Center – 27 Maple Street at 7 pm*

January 13
February 10
March 10
March 24
April 14
May 19
June 9
June 23
July 14
August 11
September 8
September 22
October 13
October 27
November 10
December 8

Commission Topic Leader Discussion

Recreation Updates – Jen Rothenberg – Ms. Rothenberg reviewed the meeting with Ms. Canniff, Mr. Connelly and Ms. Campbell where some exciting new program ideas were discussed, including some for the middle school age group.

Capital - Mr. Vitters reviewed his meeting with Mr. Hedlund and stated that they are reviewing the capital process and will be reporting back to the Commission.

Policies and Procedures – Ms. Bartholomew stated that the meeting with the members of the Arlington Public Art Committee (APAC) went very well and that the Public Art Guidelines were being slightly modified to address some the Commission's suggestions and would then be brought to the PRC for endorsement.

ADA – Ms. Mayer stated that IHCD was finalizing the report with some recommendations for priorities. Upon completion she, Mr. Connelly and Mr. Robillard will meet to determine the best way to proceed.

Special Events - Ms. Rothenberg talked about the summer event at the Reservoir.

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Field Management – No report at this time. The members discussed meeting with the individual league leaders to see what their field issues may be.

Off Leash Park Program – No report at this time.

Friends of Parks – No report at this time, but Ms. Rothenberg stated that a meeting would be set up after the holidays.

Open Space - Ms. Bartholomew and Ms. Mayer are reviewing the open space plan for the update in process and looking for input on future goals and tasks from the Commission.

Town Master Plan – No report at this time.

Funding Opportunities – Mr. Vitters will be touching base with Planning Director, Ms. Kowalski, to see if there are any grants available. Mr. Connelly stated that the application has been submitted for funding assistance from the USTA for the Spy Pond Tennis Courts project.

Technology and Web Management – Ms. Mayer will be reviewing both websites for content and flow over the next few months.

Vision 2020 – Mr. Connelly stated that he and Ms. Campbell met with Ms. Julie Brazil of Vision 2020 and are anxious to get involved.

DPW - No report at this time.

Capital Projects Update

Mr. Connelly reviewed and updated the Commission on the following capital projects:

Spy Pond Tennis Courts – The Commission reviewed the changes and most up to date information provided by Mr. Leonard. Ms. Rothenberg asked if we could walk the site and map out the area to see how large a space the new courts would occupy. Mr. Connelly stated that he could do this at any time. Ms. Bartholomew asked why the budget numbers on the 5 courts were higher in the latest draft. Mr. Connelly did not know the answer but will ask Mr. Leonard for an explanation.

ADA Study - Discussed as part of the topic leader discussion.

Magnolia Basketball Court - On hold until playground renovation in FY2016.

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Thorndike OLRA – Waiting for a quote from the contractor for ADA improvements. Once a price estimate is received, Mr. Connelly will work on locating a funding mechanism for the upgrades. Pending available funding, a final design will be discussed.

2016 Capital Requests - All capital requests have been made and are awaiting recommendation from the Finance Committee and approval from the 2015 Town Meeting. The Commission again discussed how this process might be amended in the future, due to passage of the CPA.

Other

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted:
Joseph Connelly, Director of Recreation